

Executive Summary

Introduction

Redevelopment of the Yosemite Lodge area in Yosemite Valley has been a priority for the National Park Service for many years. The January 1997 flood destroyed or damaged approximately half of the lodging units at Yosemite Lodge as well as many campsites within the Merced River floodplain. Vehicle and pedestrian conflicts on Northside Drive in the vicinity of Yosemite Lodge and Yosemite Falls have substantially contributed to Yosemite Valley traffic congestion. In accordance with the *General Management Plan* (NPS 1980) and *Yosemite Valley Plan Record of Decision* (NPS 2000b), the National Park Service is undertaking a comprehensive redevelopment of the Yosemite Lodge area, including redevelopment of Yosemite Lodge, redesign of Camp 4 walk-in campground, and relocation of Northside Drive. In addition, the National Park Service in partnership with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County (aka Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation) is developing the Indian Cultural Center.

Yosemite Lodge has provided visitor lodging since 1915. The registration building was constructed in 1956.



In accordance with the *General Management Plan* and a 1997 agreement, the National Park Service, in partnership with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County (aka Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation), is undertaking the planning, design, and compliance necessary to establish the Indian Cultural Center at the site of the last historically occupied American Indian village in Yosemite Valley. The Indian Cultural Center would provide a place for American Indian Council of Mariposa County to continue traditions in Yosemite Valley and to enhance the meaning and sacred nature of Yosemite, as identified in the *General Management Plan*. The American Indian Council of Mariposa County would be responsible for the construction and operation of the Indian Cultural Center and for conducting cultural and educational activities at the center.

The National Park Service originally planned to develop an independent environmental compliance document for the Indian Cultural Center because this undertaking had been considered a separate project. However, substantial progress had been made on the design of the Indian Cultural Center by September 2002, which brought the project's environmental compliance schedule into alignment with the compliance schedule for Yosemite Lodge, Camp 4,

and the relocation of Northside Drive. At that time, the National Park Service decided to include the Indian Cultural Center in the *Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment Environmental Assessment* due to the physical proximity of the projects and their similar compliance schedules.

At Yosemite Lodge, the *Final Yosemite Valley Plan* and its *Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement* (referred to hereafter as the *Yosemite Valley Plan*) (NPS 2000b) called for the provision of 251 lodging units and overnight parking spaces at Yosemite Lodge and the relocation of Northside Drive south of the Lodge to reduce conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians and to provide safer pedestrian access between the Lodge and the Lower Yosemite Fall area. The *Yosemite Valley Plan* called for the expansion and improvement of the campground at Camp 4 as part of an effort to relocate campgrounds outside of highly valued natural resource areas, the Merced River floodplain, and rockfall zones. The *Yosemite Valley Plan* also identified the removal of the five sites west of the intermittent creek at the western end of Camp 4 to provide a buffer for the proposed Indian Cultural Center.

The *Yosemite Valley Plan* identified and analyzed the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment at a programmatic level, with the exception of the Indian Cultural Center, which was analyzed as a cumulative project. However, as indicated in the *Yosemite Valley Plan*, as individual actions are implemented, the National Park Service must complete additional National Environmental Policy Act compliance. This environmental assessment is tiered from the *Yosemite Valley Plan* and analyzes the environmental impacts of the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment alternatives at a site-specific level of detail. This environmental assessment represents National Park Service compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act as well as parallel compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Organization of this Environmental Assessment

The preferred and alternative plans for the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment and the evaluation of potential impacts of these alternatives are integrated in this document and will be referred to collectively as the *Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment Environmental Assessment*. The contents of this document are as follows:

- Chapter I, Purpose and Need – The first chapter includes a discussion of the project’s purpose and need, planning context, relationship to management goals and objectives, and the scope of this environmental assessment.
- Chapter II, Alternatives – Presents the project alternatives considered by the National Park Service for the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment and proposed mitigation measures to protect natural, cultural, and social resources. Summary tables comparing the alternatives and environmental consequences of the alternatives are provided at the end of this chapter.
- Chapter III, Affected Environment – Provides an overview of the affected environment and describes the existing condition of natural resources, cultural resources, and social resources in the Yosemite Lodge, Camp 4, and Indian Cultural Center areas.
- Chapter IV, Environmental Consequences – Presents an analysis of the potential environmental impacts of each alternative, including impacts analyzed in the *Yosemite Valley Plan*, impacts specific to actions that have slightly changed since completion of the *Yosemite Valley Plan*, and cumulative impacts. In addition, an analysis of potential impairment of park resources resulting from the alternatives is presented.

- Chapter V, Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan – Evaluates the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment project in the context of the seven management elements of the *Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan* (Merced River Plan) (NPS 2001c).
- Chapter VI, Consultation and Coordination – Summarizes the process relied upon in preparing and reviewing this document. It also lists the government agencies and organizations that will receive this environmental assessment, as well as the list of preparers and reviewers.
- Chapter VII, References – Includes the bibliography, glossary of terms, and acronyms used in this environmental assessment.

Purpose and Need for the Action

The purpose of the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment is to implement the actions called for in the *General Management Plan* and *Yosemite Valley Plan* for the project area. The specific purposes of the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment reflect the purposes of the *Yosemite Valley Plan* to:

- Restore, protect, and enhance the resources of Yosemite Valley by:
 - Improving connections between Yosemite Lodge and the natural resources of Yosemite Valley, including enhancing connections between interior spaces and the outdoors
 - Siting lodging and camping facilities outside of the 100-year floodplain, River Protection Overlay, and rockfall zone
 - Designing Camp 4 campsites to fit within the natural landscape
 - Providing a traditional tribal presence for the American Indian Council of Mariposa County (aka Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation) to continue their traditions in Yosemite Valley and to enhance the meaning and sacred nature of Yosemite, as identified in the *General Management Plan*
- Provide opportunities for high-quality, resource-based visitor experiences by:
 - Changing the character of Yosemite Lodge from a motel-type experience to one more connected to a national park lodge experience and Yosemite Valley
 - Providing more economy lodging and campsites in Yosemite Valley
 - Expanding camping opportunities in Yosemite Valley
 - Improving wayfinding on the project site, including to the Yosemite Falls trailhead
- Reduce traffic congestion by:
 - Improving the vehicle and pedestrian interface between Yosemite Lodge and Lower Yosemite Fall
- Provide effective park operations to meet the mission of the National Park Service by:
 - Improving existing maintenance and common facilities and utilities at Yosemite Lodge and Camp 4
 - Providing adequate parking for Yosemite Lodge and Camp 4 guests consistent with the *Yosemite Valley Plan*

The need for the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment parallels the need for the *Yosemite Valley Plan* to provide improved facilities and services for people who visit Yosemite Valley. Improved facilities and services are needed to:

- Replace some of the overnight accommodations at Yosemite Lodge that were lost during the 1997 flood and remove some lodging units that remain within the 100-year floodplain
- Replace some of the campsites in Yosemite Valley that were lost in the 1997 flood
- Provide a national park lodge experience at Yosemite Lodge instead of the existing motel-type experience
- Reduce traffic congestion on Northside Drive in the vicinity of Yosemite Lodge and Lower Yosemite Fall and improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists crossing Northside Drive between the Lodge and Lower Yosemite Fall area
- Provide for a traditional tribal presence in Yosemite Valley

Relationship to Other Plans

The Yosemite National Park *General Management Plan*, *Yosemite Valley Plan*, and Merced River Plan are the guiding documents for this environmental assessment. The Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment is consistent with guidance set forth in these plans. The Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment was called for in the *Yosemite Valley Plan*, and this environmental assessment tiers directly from it. The range of alternatives considered in this environmental assessment was directed by the *Yosemite Valley Plan*.

Overview of the Alternatives

The *Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment Environmental Assessment* presents and analyzes three sets of proposals, referred to as the alternatives. The No Action Alternative represents management direction and conditions as they currently exist in the project area. The two action alternatives represent a reasonable range of options to satisfy the purpose of and need for the project, while also meeting all relevant legal requirements. The action alternatives aim to achieve the goals of this project, but vary in their proposals for the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment. The Indian Cultural Center is an element common to both action alternatives.

The National Park Service has identified Alternative 2 as the preferred alternative. It satisfies the purpose of and need for the action, protects resources, and complies with the goals of the *General Management Plan*, *Yosemite Valley Plan*, and Merced River Plan. Meeting the requirements of these plans complies with the National Park Service Organic Act and Yosemite National Park enabling legislation. The selection of a final alternative will be documented in a Finding of No Significant Impact.

Alternative 1 (No Action)

The No Action Alternative maintains the status quo for the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment site, as described in Chapter III, Affected Environment. It provides a baseline from which to compare the action alternatives, to evaluate the magnitude of proposed changes, and to measure the environmental effects of those changes. This no action concept follows the guidance of the

Council on Environmental Quality, which describes the No Action Alternative as representing no change from the existing management direction or level of management intensity.

Under the No Action Alternative, the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment site would remain in its existing condition, with 245 lodging units at Yosemite Lodge and 37 campsites at Camp 4. Necessary maintenance and repairs would continue, but no major undertakings (e.g., removal of existing buildings or construction of new buildings) would occur.

Alternative 2 (Preferred)

Alternative 2 would implement approved *Yosemite Valley Plan* actions for the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment, including providing 251 lodging units and corresponding overnight parking spaces at Yosemite Lodge, providing 65 campsites and 195 parking spaces at Camp 4, relocating Northside Drive south of the Lodge, and converting existing Northside Drive to a multi-use paved trail in the vicinity of Yosemite Lodge. Consistent with the *General Management Plan*, the National Park Service in partnership with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County (aka Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation) would develop the Indian Cultural Center at the site of the last-occupied Indian village in Yosemite Valley, west of Camp 4.

Yosemite Lodge

The layout of the Lodge site under Alternative 2 would group together lodging units of similar types. The one-story cabin units would be clustered in the center of the Lodge site, and the two-story cottages would be interspersed with existing two-story buildings. This alternative features centralized parking, with the largest Lodge parking lot located in the center of the site.

Alternative 2 would provide two small-scale viewing plazas along the proposed promenade. The amphitheater would be relocated and the capacity expanded to accommodate 300 to 350 individuals.

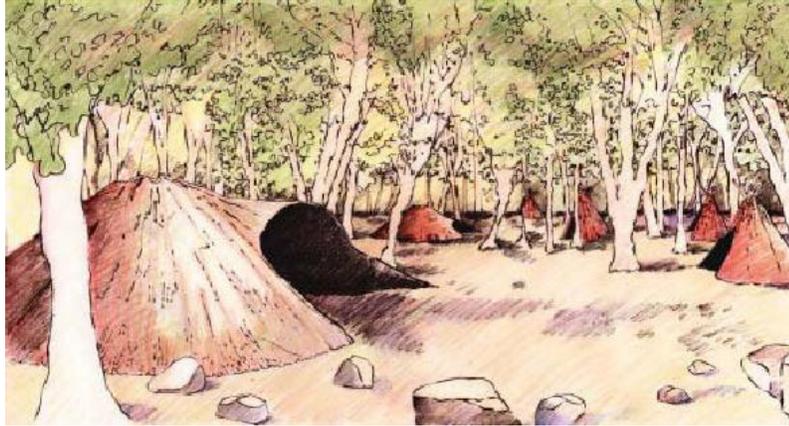
Camp 4

At Camp 4, Alternative 2 would provide a free-standing climbing display building, a cooking pavilion, gear storage lockers, and shared fire rings. The west portion of Camp 4 would feature a renovated restroom building. A new restroom building would be located in the eastern area of Camp 4, and a new restroom and shower building would be located near Camp 4 parking.

Indian Cultural Center

Under Alternative 2, the National Park Service in partnership with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County (aka Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation) would develop the Indian Cultural Center at the site of the last-occupied American Indian village in Yosemite Valley and return to the site the last remaining cabin from the historic village for adaptive reuse. The Indian Cultural Center would include a ceremonial roundhouse, sweatlodge, 15 cedar-bark umachas (houses), a community building, and shade structures. The Indian Cultural Center would provide opportunities for cultural continuity in Yosemite Valley.

The National Park Service in partnership with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County (aka Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation) would develop the Indian Cultural Center.



Northside Drive

Northside Drive would be rerouted around the south side of Yosemite Lodge to reduce conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians on Northside Drive and to provide safer pedestrian access between the Lodge and Lower Yosemite Fall. Realigned Northside Drive would continue to cross Yosemite Creek at the historic Yosemite Creek Bridge. West of Yosemite Creek Bridge, Northside Drive would be routed through a roundabout to direct traffic south of the Lodge site.

Restoration and Revegetation

Three areas on the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment site would be restored to natural conditions to the extent practicable, including the area between the proposed realignment of Northside Drive at Yosemite Lodge and the Merced River (the site of former Yosemite Lodge cabins, Pine cottage, and employee housing), the area between the cabins and parking area on the Lodge site, and an area between Camp 4 and the Indian Cultural Center. Not including impervious and semipervious surfaces in the restoration areas, approximately 37.89 acres would be restored to natural conditions under Alternative 2. The restoration effort would remove the revetment and diversion dam along Yosemite Creek to restore overland flow across the Merced River floodplain. The landscape of the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment site would be revegetated based upon the principles described in the *Comprehensive Landscape and Revegetation Plan for Yosemite Lodge* (NPS 1999b). Existing and historic vegetation communities would be re-established and enhanced within the project area. The site design would provide communal outdoor spaces that encourage visitors to experience the out-of-doors.

Alternative 3

Similar to Alternative 2, Alternative 3 would implement approved *Yosemite Valley Plan* actions for the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment, including providing 251 lodging units and corresponding overnight parking spaces at Yosemite Lodge, providing 65 campsites and 195 parking spaces at Camp 4, relocating Northside Drive south of the Lodge, and converting existing Northside Drive to a multi-use paved trail in the Yosemite Lodge area. Consistent with the *General Management Plan*, the National Park Service in partnership with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County (aka Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation) would develop the Indian

Cultural Center at the site of the last-occupied American Indian village in Yosemite Valley, west of Camp 4.

Alternative 3 differs from Alternative 2 primarily in Lodge site layout and the provision and location of Lodge and Camp 4 community facilities.

Yosemite Lodge

Under Alternative 3, new one- and two-story buildings would be interspersed throughout the Lodge site. Alternative 3 would feature a remote parking configuration, with the largest Lodge parking lot located at the western end of the site.

Alternative 3 would provide one large-scale viewing plaza along the proposed promenade. The amphitheater would be renovated in its current location and would retain its existing capacity (accommodating 150 to 200 individuals). Alternative 3 would provide changeable interior display space at the Lodge instead of a climbing display building at Camp 4, as proposed under Alternative 2.

Camp 4

Individual fire rings would be provided at Camp 4. The west portion of Camp 4 would feature a renovated restroom building. New restroom and shower buildings would be located near the Camp 4 parking lot and in the eastern area of the campground.

Indian Cultural Center

As identified under Alternative 2, the National Park Service in partnership with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County (aka Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation) would develop the Indian Cultural Center at the site of the last-occupied American Indian village in Yosemite Valley.

Northside Drive

As identified under Alternative 2, Northside Drive would be rerouted around the south side of Yosemite Lodge to reduce conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians on Northside Drive and to provide safer pedestrian access between the Lodge and Lower Yosemite Fall.

Restoration and Revegetation

Similar to Alternative 2, three areas on the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment site would be restored to natural conditions to the extent practicable, for a total of 37.31 acres. The restoration effort under Alternative 3 would also remove the revetment and diversion dam along Yosemite Creek to restore overland flow across the Merced River floodplain. Under Alternative 3, revegetation efforts would be the same as those described under Alternative 2.

Environmentally Preferable Alternative

The Council on Environmental Quality Regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Park Service National Environmental Policy Act guidelines require that “the alternative or alternatives which were considered to be environmentally preferable” be identified (Council on Environmental Quality Regulations, Section 1505.2). Environmentally preferable is defined as “the alternative that will promote the national environmental policy as expressed in the National Environmental Policy Act’s Section 101. Ordinarily, this means the alternative that causes the least damage to the biological and physical environment; it also means the alternative that best protects, preserves, and enhances historic, cultural, and natural resources” (Council on Environmental Quality 1981).

Section 101 of the National Environmental Policy Act states that “... it is the continuing responsibility of the Federal Government to ... (1) fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations; (2) assure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings; (3) attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences; (4) preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, and maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity, and variety of individual choice; (5) achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life’s amenities; and (6) enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.” The environmentally preferable alternative for the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment is based on these national environmental policy goals.

Alternative 1 (No Action)

The No Action Alternative represents conditions and management practices as they currently exist for the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment. Although Alternative 1 would include the least change to cultural resources, it would not provide opportunities for cultural continuity, since the National Park Service in partnership with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County would not build the Indian Cultural Center. Alternative 1 would not result in the same level of environmental protection and restoration of natural resources as the action alternatives. Alternative 1 would not fully achieve goals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of Section 101 of the National Environmental Policy Act. Alternative 1 would not fulfill the purpose of and need for the project. Although existing patterns of visitor use would continue, traffic congestion and existing impacts on visitor experience and scenic resources in the project area would not be remedied. Alternative 1 would not fulfill goal 2, because the alternative would not assure safe surroundings; vehicle and pedestrian conflicts on Northside Drive between Yosemite Lodge and the Lower Yosemite Fall area would not be remedied, and portions of Camp 4 would continue to be located within the base of talus zone. Compared to the action alternatives, Alternative 1 would be least effective in attaining goal 3, as described in Section 101, in that it would have the narrowest range of beneficial uses that could occur without degradation of natural and cultural resources in the project area. Because of existing impacts that are not remedied with respect to goals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of Section 101, Alternative 1 would not be the environmentally preferable alternative.

Alternative 2 (Preferred)

This alternative would realize each of the provisions of the national environmental policy goals stated in Section 101. Alternative 2 would fulfill goal 1 by restoring to natural conditions (to the extent practicable) 37.89 acres of the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment site and revegetating the rest of the project area using an applied ecological approach to revegetation. By redesigning Yosemite Lodge to refocus visitors' lodging experience from motel-like to one more connected with and unique to Yosemite National Park, and by redesigning Camp 4 to conform to the natural landscape, Alternative 2 would fulfill goal 2.

Alternative 2 would fulfill goal 3 of the national environmental policy goals by reducing risks to public health and safety by removing structures (i.e., Alder, Hemlock, Juniper, and Maple) from the Merced River floodplain, removing the traffic and pedestrian conflict on Northside Drive between Yosemite Lodge and the Lower Yosemite Fall area, relocating the search and rescue sites outside the base of talus zone, and constructing new facilities



Alternative 2 would provide a climbing display building to highlight the importance of Camp 4's climbing history.

that comply with current building standards. Under Alternative 2, Northside Drive would be realigned within the 100-year floodplain, and traffic exiting Yosemite Valley would be rerouted onto the new multi-use paved trail along the northern boundary of the Lodge site during special emergency conditions, such as a large flood event. The proposed multi-use paved trail would be of sufficient width to operate in this capacity during emergencies. In addition, Alternative 2 would develop the Indian Cultural Center at the site of the last-occupied American Indian village in Yosemite Valley. Alternative 2 also would provide a cooking pavilion at Camp 4, a climbing display building to highlight the importance of Camp 4's climbing history, as well as an expanded amphitheater on the Lodge site. These actions would provide a range of beneficial uses in the project area consistent with goal 3.

Alternative 2 would fulfill goals 4 and 5 through revegetation and restoration activities, which include removing a diversion dam and revetments from Yosemite Creek. Removal of these structures would restore natural flow in this area of the creek and return the Merced River 100-year floodplain to near-natural, free-flow conditions. These resource enhancements would achieve a balance between population and resource use, since the restoration activities would occur adjacent to Yosemite Lodge, which is among the most intensely developed sites in Yosemite Valley. In addition, Alternative 2 would implement measures to reduce adverse effects on natural and cultural resources related to construction and operation of the facility (e.g., mitigation measures identified in Appendix C, Mitigation Measures Common to All Action Alternatives), as required under goal 4 of the national environmental policy goals. Under

Alternative 2, cultural resources would be managed in accordance with the 1999 Programmatic Agreement.

Consistent with goal 6, Alternative 2 would implement sustainable technologies designed to minimize impacts on natural resources, as required by the National Park Service's *Guiding Principles of Sustainable Design*. Sustainable principles and technologies incorporated into this alternative include use of recycled materials and installation of energy- and water-efficient features and utilities.

Alternative 3

Alternative 3 would be as effective as Alternative 2 in realizing the provisions of the national environmental policy goals in Section 101 of the National Environmental Policy Act. Alternative 3 would fulfill goal 1 by restoring to natural conditions (to the extent practicable) 37.31 acres of the Yosemite Lodge Area Redevelopment site and revegetating the rest of the project area using an applied ecological approach to revegetation. By redesigning Yosemite Lodge to refocus visitors' lodging experience from motel-like to one more connected with and unique to Yosemite National Park, and by redesigning Camp 4 to conform to the natural landscape, Alternative 3 would fulfill goal 2.

Alternative 3 would fulfill goal 3 of the national environmental policy goals by reducing risks to public health and safety by removing structures (i.e., Alder, Hemlock, Juniper, and Maple) from the Merced River floodplain, removing the traffic and pedestrian conflict on Northside Drive between Yosemite Lodge and the Lower Yosemite Fall area, relocating the search and rescue sites outside the base of talus zone, and constructing new facilities that comply with current building standards. Under Alternative 3, Northside Drive would be realigned within the 100-year floodplain, and traffic exiting Yosemite Valley would be rerouted onto the new multi-use paved trail along the northern boundary of the Lodge site during special emergency conditions, such as a large flood event. The proposed multi-use paved trail would be of sufficient width to operate in this capacity during emergencies. Similar to Alternative 2, Alternative 3 would develop an Indian Cultural Center at the site of the last-occupied American Indian village in Yosemite Valley. Alternative 3 would provide an interior interpretive display space at Yosemite Lodge for changing informational exhibits and would renovate the existing amphitheater at Yosemite Lodge. These actions would provide a range of beneficial uses in the project area consistent with goal 3.

Similar to Alternative 2, Alternative 3 would fulfill goals 4 and 5 through revegetation and restoration activities, which include removing a diversion dam and revetments from Yosemite Creek. Removal of these structures would restore natural flow in this area of the creek and return the Merced River 100-year floodplain to near-natural, free-flowing conditions. These resource enhancements would achieve a balance between population and resource use, since the restoration activities would occur adjacent to Yosemite Lodge, which is among the most intensely developed sites in Yosemite Valley. In addition, Alternative 3 would implement measures to reduce adverse effects on natural and cultural resources related to construction and operation of the facility (e.g., mitigation measures identified in Appendix C, Mitigation Measures Common to All Action Alternatives), as required under goal 4 of the national environmental policy goals. Under Alternative 3, cultural resources would be managed in accordance with the 1999 Programmatic Agreement. Under this alternative, impacts to one archeological site would be reduced compared to Alternative 2, which would fulfill goal 4 to a slightly greater degree than Alternative 2.

Consistent with goal 6, Alternative 3 would implement sustainable technologies designed to minimize impacts on natural resources, as required by the National Park Service's *Guiding Principles of Sustainable Design*. Sustainable principles and technologies incorporated into this alternative include use of recycled materials and installation of energy- and water-efficient features and utilities.

Environmentally Preferable Alternative

The National Park Service has determined that the environmentally preferable alternatives are Alternative 2 and Alternative 3. Alternative 2 and Alternative 3 best achieve the six goals prescribed under Section 101 of the National Environmental Policy Act. As described in Chapter IV, Environmental Consequences, Alternative 2 and Alternative 3 have small differences in their environmental impacts on natural and cultural resources, however, on balance both alternatives are considered environmentally preferable. Alternative 2 and Alternative 3 would both (1) fulfill responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations through restoration and revegetation actions; (2) provide a high level of protection of natural and cultural resources while concurrently attaining the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation; (3) reduce risks to public health and safety; (4) provide aesthetically pleasing surroundings; (5) achieve a balance between population and resource use; and (6) enhance the quality of renewable resources and approaches the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.